

**State Youth Council  
Meeting Minutes  
August 20, 2004**

**I. Introductions**

Debbie Holleman, Jennifer Lambert, Ann Baker, Melody Bolton, Stefan Kerr, Rachael Prior, Kevin Jonell, Angela Lis, Mark Johnston, Dan Sisneros, Nicole Barden, Caren Swales, Erin Jones, Sue Schierkolk, Walter Worthy, Julie Berge, Steve Wright, Amy Arquilla (teleconference), Samantha O'Neill, Steve Wright, Aron Diaz (teleconference)

**II. Discussion/Vote Related to Additional SWIS Money for Youth Discretionary Grants**

A summary of the OWD letter to SWIS was given, and highlights from the subsequent teleconference call on Monday August 16 regarding solicitation to the SWIS for additional \$70,000 were given. Discussion ensued over the additional money and options.

Sue Schierkolk proposed a motion to have the SYC not use the \$70k SWIS funding for the next three projects in line, seconded by Mark Johnston, all were in favor, motion passed.

10 votes for the motion, 3 abstaining, 0 opposed to the motion.

Ann Baker proposed a motion that the SYC will go back to the SWIS committee to request \$70k to tentatively fund the Tri-County proposal for year 2 based on the meeting of the goals of year 1, seconded by Caren Swales. All in favor, motion passed.

Discussion: Clarification was made on the budgets of the Tri-County proposal and the Weld County proposal. Clarification of the scoring checklist vs. the PGL happened, as well, by Ann.

11 in favor of the motion, 3 abstentions.

*Steve will draft the letter, to be reviewed by Amy & Jennifer, then will forward to the Director of the Office of Workforce Development for the next SWIS meeting, which is October 14.*

*Amy & Julie will check on the ability of the funding to be used beyond year one.*

**III. Review Committee Protocol**

Amy discussed that she received some requests from regions asking for more details about their grant denials; Steve stated that CDLE received similar feedback with the Wagner-Peyser grants.

*Steve will work on new letters addressing specific areas where the denied grants were not scored well, to be reviewed by Ann and Jennifer.*

*Steve will set up teleconference to discuss partnering with CDLE on grant writing workshops.*

#### **IV. Review of July Minutes**

Need to reflect moving \$25k from “grants” to “operating funds”.

Clarification on the “at risk” comment from the minutes for Mark Johnston.

Melody made a motion to accept the amended minutes, seconded by Sue, motion passed.

#### **V. By-Laws**

History - originally the SYC delegated a maximum of 25 voting members. Decided to drop the number of voting members to 17 and expand the categories (special expertise in youth policy, youth service agencies, juvenile justice and law enforcement, local public housing, parents of youth, youth, job corps, employers, workforce regions, etc.)

We currently have 20 voting members and one non-voting member.

Need to target k-12 education, change Danny Sisneros to a voting member, effective today, and focus on adding more youth.

A motion was made by Melody to adjust the bylaws from 17-25 members to include at least one WIA eligible youth, seconded by Ann. 12 in favor, 0 opposed, motion passed.

Collbran will always like to provide youth membership, and it was clarified that they can always provide a youth, but the youth may or may not always be approved as a voting member.

Mark added that there should also be a WIA voting youth on our boards, as it is a requirement on the local boards.

Sue revisited the youth discussion from the July meeting and teleconference regarding involvement of youth, as there were several people who did not attend, and there are also a few new SYC members. *Steve will re-send the youth notes from the teleconference for all members to add to their SYC binders.*

Summary of youth discussion - Need to get youth out locally and get them involved with the areas receiving \$ from SYC youth discretionary grants, and find out what the impact is, and find out the youth's opinions around the programs in their local areas to make sure they feel the programs are beneficial. The youth would be paired with a mentor who would help them make contacts, and develop a report back to the SYC. The SYC would offer letters of recommendation to the youth for future employers and for school credits.

WIA Eligible Youth (definition) - Youth aged 14 – 21, typically from a lower income home, possibly disabled; must have documented employment or educational barrier (high school dropout, teen parent/pregnant, foster care, disability, basic skills deficient – testing 2 grade levels below, youth offenders, homeless). 5% window applies locally where income does not need to be examined, but they do have to have one of the barriers. Also, if the youth is disabled, you only look at their individual income, not the family's income.

Ann – clarification that the voting youth members must be WIA eligible. Second, clarification that the short term, non-voting youth solicited locally to review SYC

discretionary grants in their community would not require bylaw change or WIA representation.

Also finance would need to approve and provide reimbursement for travel and time of the youth and the mentor.

**\*\*Debbie Holleman.** would like to be involved.

## **VI. Governor's Summer Job Hunt**

Julie Berge summarized the program for the new members (see prior minutes details). Funded under Wagner-Peyser and through WIA via SWIS committee.

As of 8/20/04, there were 45,413 youth registered in the program, with 10,612 finding employment. Program shuts down 9/17, new PGL in October, then program starts up again in Feb/March.

9News is a partner, as is the Denver Post, so there are potential press opportunities for businesses involved.

Trinidad banquet was last week, 75 folks attended.

Sterling had an award ceremony two weeks ago, Mayor present, CDLE, OWD present, kids were awarded for their involvement in the Paint Program and Tornado cleanup.

## **VII. Youth Transition Grant**

Workforce Development Council's 5-yr grant to improve services to youth with disabilities in the transition from youth/school to work/independence. 1<sup>st</sup> year completed, expecting another round of funding for year two. Over the last year, the team gathered information via resource mapping (83 programs), focus groups of youth, parents and employers, literature review, and new initiatives meeting in May. July 28, findings were presented to an advisory group of 35 people (youth with disabilities, parents, agencies, 3 pilot sites – Tri-County, Alamosa, Boulder). 1<sup>st</sup> cut of state plan is currently in development, can be presented to SYC shortly. SYC is interested in what the employers have to say. Also needs guidance and feedback from SYC.

Next agenda, capsule summary of the data and how we are moving forward, and chance for SYC feedback.

## **VIII. Other business**

A. Senate Youth Program - [www.hearstfdn.org/ussyp/](http://www.hearstfdn.org/ussyp/). Is an opportunity for youth to shadow Senate for a week in February (2 per state), with \$5000 scholarship for each participating youth.

B. Job Readiness Toolkit – Dani Crane

[www.tricoyouthworks.org](http://www.tricoyouthworks.org)

Awesome toolkit done by Tri-County. Use it as much as you want! Copy, share, etc. Career development and job success will be future topics.

C. Travel Update

Second annual youth summit in OK City, Danny, Nicole, Dani attending. Colorado hosted the first with the help of the State Youth Council.

Pepnet conference in DC, September 13-15 will be attended by Ann Baker.

Mid-November Workforce Professionals Training coming up in Chicago.

WIA Youth Coordinators meeting quarterly, promising practices, conference reviews, will be in Frisco (site of the Gravity Grindz project), October 1 from 10 – 1. Mark Johnston has details.

Workforce Development month in September is coming up. Two events are: Small business symposium on 9/10, and the E3 career and resource fair on 9/29. See website: <http://www.coworkforce.com/wd/> for details.

## **IX. Adjourn**

Next meeting - October 22, 700 Kipling (NE of 6<sup>th</sup> and Kipling). Directions & details to be provided on the next agenda.